

Student Visas Web Chat with Consular Officers

July 21, 2011

Web Chat Moderator: Welcome to the Student Visas web chat. Our consular officers will start answering your questions now.

deepak: can private students of Trivuwun University apply for students visa?

* Consular Officer 7: Hi Deepak. You may apply for a student visa if you have been accepted to a university or college in the U.S. However, you must be prepared to answer questions at your student visa interview as to why you pursued a private course instead of a regular course.

deepak: If yes what are the documents that should be submitted?

* Consular Officer 7: There are only two required documents for a student visa interview: the original I-20 and academic transcripts. Any other document you wish to submit is a supplemental document and is not required. Many people think that financial documents are required, but this is not true. However, we will review any document that you choose to submit.

avasg shrestha 2: Ajay:-I ahve completed my three years bachelo's here and now iam applying as a transfer student in undergrduate course.In my I20 Its mentioned 3 years graduation program.what question may be asked in this condition?

* Consular Officer 5: At every interview, the officer will be trying to determine an applicant's ability, intent, and means to study in the United States. Furthermore, applicants must demonstrate strong ties to their native country and convince the Officer that they will return after the completion of their study.

San: Can you please list out the exact criteria needed for student visa for USA. Usually, there is a rejection of student vis afrom American embassy in Nepal and we are unaware why this happens. Lets be clear on this, If you really want to promote the Education between Nepal and America why are student visas rejected. Or may be Embassy would recommend Nepalese Students about the university and the college for the education promotion and uplift the Nepal-USA relations.

* Consular Officer 7: Thank you for your question. To qualify for a student visa, the applicant must demonstrate three things: 1) that they plan to be a genuine student in the U.S.; 2) that they plan to depart the U.S. upon completion of their studies; and 3) that they have credible sources of income that can cover the entire cost of the education in the U.S. The Consular Officer will ask questions to determine these three items and the applicant's answers to these questions determine if the applicant is qualified for the visa. There are only two required documents: the original I-20 and academic transcripts. All other documents are considered supplementary and are not required. It is important for the applicants to be honest during their interview and provide credible answers.

San: Why are the apointment fees so much expensive even though you know these are students applying.

* Consular Officer 7: The non-immigrant visa fees are determined by the Bureau of Consular Affairs and are the same worldwide. If a student visa applicant can truly afford the cost of education to study in the U.S., they should be able to afford the visa fees.

San: You please list us, if you provide us with these documents and bank balance according to the Universities, we could apply ourselves. We have to rely on consultancies to apply for us even we are educated enough.

* Consular Officer 5: There are only two required documents to apply for a student visa: the original I-20 and academic transcripts. Neither of these documents requires a visa consultancy. We do not recommend that our applicants use visa consultants. You can research schools and universities in the U.S. for free at USEF and you can find the answers to your student visa application through our public forums, such as our website, Facebook page and this student visa webchat.

David: I am currently studying Information Technology @ Islington College (Formerly known as Informatics College) Bachelors 1st year. I want to transfer my credit to the universities in the US. What should I do?

* Consular Officer 6: You should contact universities in the US to see what their requirements are for credit transfers. If you decide to apply for a visa, you should be ready to discuss why you are transferring.

Subash Awale: I was refused my student visa three times for this fall. First two times I was given financial reasons for the refusal, for which I was surprised because I believe my financial documents were strong enough and they were all genuine. In my third attempt, I was told I have no intent of being a good student; whereas in my first interview, the interviewer said "I'm sure you are going to be a very good student but your family doesn't make enough money for you." The interview went quite good all three times I guess. I am confused for what reasons I am being denied? What are the chances if I apply again with the same I20 and same documents? Please help.

* Consular Officer 7: Subash, this is a good question. To qualify for a student visa, the applicant must demonstrate three things: 1) that they plan to be a genuine student in the U.S.; 2) that they plan to depart the U.S. upon completion of their studies; and 3) that they have credible sources of income that can cover the entire cost of the education in the U.S. The Consular Officer will ask questions to determine these three items and the applicant's answers to these questions determine if the applicant is qualified for the visa. Please keep in mind that the Consular Officers all adjudicate using the same U.S. laws and regulations. It is not a game or a lottery. Therefore, if you have already been refused three times, the Consular Officer will only be able to issue the visa if there is a significant – and credible – change in your situation. At all times, the Consular Officer is looking if the answers given are credible.

Subash Awale: My primary sponsor is my uncle (my dad passed away 6 years back). Is that one of my weak points?

* Consular Officer 2: Subash, it does not matter who your sponsors are, as long as it is credible that they will pay for your education in the U.S. and have the finances to do so.

Anjan Karmacharya: I had been rejected for student visa in 2010 so I had one year gap. This year I am joining engineering and after finishing my engineering I want do masters degree in US. What will be the effect of the gap I had during the interview?

* Consular Officer 5: The Consular Officer will ask you questions to determine your intent to be a genuine student in the U.S. and depart the U.S. upon completion of your studies. You must be prepared to answer these questions credibly and honestly, including why you have a one year gap.

Anjan Karmacharya: I can understand what good financial background is. But does good academic background means only to scoring more than 60 or 80 or more than that? What if the student scores below 60? Isn't that student called the student having good academic background? What is the chance of getting visa for those student?

* Consular Officer 5: Applicants must demonstrate that they plan to be a genuine student in the U.S. One way to demonstrate this is by having good grades from your past academic performance. However, this is not the only way to demonstrate your student intent. You can also demonstrate it through knowledge about your proposed academic program in the U.S.

Dipesh Raman Dongol: does the academic really matter in getting visa for usa? i did alevels and got b,d,d,e grades, does that mean i will not get visa?

* Consular Officer 3: Hi Dipesh! This is a good question. There are many factors which determine whether a visa applicant will qualify, and good grades are one of the factors. Having bad grades does not automatically disqualify you for a student visa, but it may be difficult for you to demonstrate that you will be a good student in the USA if you were a bad student in Nepal.

Kabindra Malla: I graduated from a U.S. college in May 2010, and am applying for a new F-1 visa as I am entering into grad school this fall. Would you term my current visa as cancelled / revoked ?

* Consular Officer 5: Kabindra, no, your current visa is neither cancelled or revoked at the moment, although, as you appear to know, it is no longer a valid visa (meaning you cannot travel on it to re-enter the U.S.)

suyog: hello sir, im suyog subedi and is applying for the visa interview most probably on coming wednesday. sir i wanted to know what documents does embassy requires from my Sponser who is my uncle(a US citizen). im applying for Masters in Public Health at eastern Kuntucky university.

* Consular Officer 4: Suyog, the only required documents for a student visa interview are a valid I-20 and your academic qualifications (transcripts), any other documents you choose to submit are simply supporting your case. Again, nothing is required from your uncle but you may choose to submit tax returns or anything that you think that may help show your uncle is financially able to support your education. However, the most important thing to remember is that you must be able to talk about (in your interview) why your uncle will pay for your education.

Ramesh: Sir, what type of colleges are best for nepali students in US?

* Consular Officer 6: There are many types of colleges in the US and there are many types of Nepali students who apply to study in the US. The best college for you depends on who you are. A good place to start your research is at USEF here in Kathmandu. Then, do some more research online. When a student has done his or her research and they know what they want, it often comes through in the visa interview. So take your time and find the school that's best for YOU!

San: Why should there be visa restrictions for students from least developed countries to study in USA?

* Consular Officer 4: San, there are no visa restrictions for students from less developed countries. However, students from these countries (such as Nepal) often have a difficult time convincing a Consular Officer that their family can afford U.S. tuition and living expenses for the student. For example, the per capita income in Nepal in 2009 was \$473. Therefore it is unlikely that the majority of families in Nepal can afford to send a student to the U.S. to study. In your student visa interview you must be credible about your sources of income and the sources of income must also be sufficient to afford the program you have chosen. Unfortunately, due to the economic situation of Nepal, this is difficult for many visa student applicants to do.

navraaz: can an Edv applicant get student visa

* Consular Officer 7: Hi Navraaz, thank you for the question. One of the qualifications for a student visa is that the applicant plans to depart the U.S. upon completion of their studies. It might be more difficult for someone who has applied for the Diversity Visa to demonstrate this.

San: Does US Embassy provide scholarship to students also or only to Government Officials?

* Consular Officer 5: You can find out information about all kinds of scholarships available through USEF, some scholarships do come from the U.S. government but you will have to seek qualification for them through the scholarship programs themselves, not through the U.S. Embassy.

navraaz: what about age bar and education gap?

* Consular Officer 7: If you are an older student or have gaps in your education, you must be prepared to explain how studying in the U.S. fits into your long-term plan. Especially for students pursuing their Masters or PhD degrees, or older students going back for a Bachelors degree, we expect them to know WHY they want to study in the U.S. and how this will truly help advance a career that they plan to have outside of the U.S. after graduation.

Ramesh: if academic performance in +2 level is good then will there be a plus point for getting visas or only SAT marks are important ?

* Consular Officer 6: Hi Ramesh, your past academic performance is often a good sign that you plan to go to the US to be a serious student and that helps your visa application. You

aren't required to submit SAT scores but it's a good idea to include them if you've taken the test.

Shyam Krishna Shrestha: Dear Sir, I hold 3-years bachelor degree in B.A. with major sociology and psychology but I like to join MBA. What might be the criteria?

* Consular Officer 4: Shyam, you will need to do your own research on U.S. universities that will accept a 3 year bachelor degree. They do exist. Try contacting USEF or searching on the internet. Most MBA programs also require the GMAT test, which you may want to start preparing for now. Good luck!

mahesh: I have completed my bachelor degree in 2005 and i want to study master degree in U.S embassy what is the impact of this gap and for your kind information i have been working many organization in this period does it affects

* Consular Officer 5: In any interview for a student visa you must convince the consular officer of your ability, intent, and means to study in the United States. Furthermore, applicants must demonstrate strong ties to their native country and convince the Officer that they will return after the completion of their study. If you can explain the reasoning for your employment and then your desire to pursue further study, you can explain your reasoning for returning to Nepal, and that you or your family can afford the tuition, then you may qualify for the visa.

San: You are well aware about the per capita income of the Nepalese, then still most of the students make it out in the expensive colleges as well, You mean to say that, the consular is only convinced with high earning people?

* Consular Officer 1: Hi San - we are aware of the per capita income of Nepalese, and that it is difficult for many people to afford college in the United States. We have to take this into account in making our decisions, so that students will be able to afford the tuition and cost of living without resorting to unauthorized employment to pay their expenses.

Nirjal Sharma: How can I go and read this entire webchat or the previous ones later in my leisure?

* Consular Officer 7: Hi Nirjal - great question! This webchat will be posted on our website (<http://nepal.usembassy.gov/>) with a link on our Facebook page in a few days.

Shyam Krishna Shrestha: Shyam Krishna Shrestha: Dear Sir, I hold 3-years bachelor degree in B.A. with major sociology and psychology but I like to join MBA. What might be the criteria?

* Consular Officer 5: The school you apply to will determine what, if any, further courses you will need to take to join an MBA course. That is not something that consular officers decide. We adjudicate the visa based on what the I-20 you present indicates.

dip: With due respect.. How can a consular decide whether a student returns or not after the completion of his/her studies just based on documents and interview. I have seen students with very intention of returning and working in Nepal being rejected and the ones who has no intention of returning getting visas. This is bit sad for our country and enthusiastic, serious student who really wants to learn from US and do something for the country.

* Consular Officer 6: Hi Dip. Good question. The answer is: we're human and, while we try to make the right decision in every case, we make mistakes sometimes. It's unfortunate that some people take advantage of student visas and make it harder for bright young students like yourself. You'll be happy to know that we sometimes look at our previous decisions to learn what we did right and what we did wrong. We're always striving to do better.

* Consular Officer 7: Dip, it's also important to keep in mind that the way U.S. visa law is written, the burden of proof is on the applicant to overcome the presumption of immigrant intent. Therefore, if the Consular Officer is not convinced of the applicant's intent to depart the U.S. upon completion of their studies, they are required - by law - to deny the visa.

San: Embassy asks not to use consultants for filling out the visa forms, but we can see lots of form filling agents just in front of the Embassy itself?

* Consular Officer 5: They are right in front of the Embassy to take advantage of a good location. Their presence anywhere near the Embassy in no way indicates that they are endorsed by the Embassy. We encourage all students to do the research on their schools themselves, learn about the visa application process, and to be honest and sincere during their interview.

suyog: my parents have an American Green Card and are living and working in USA for last 5 years. Now when I'm applying for a student visa will that affect my visa interview in any negative way?

* Consular Officer 2: Hi Suyog, if your parents reside in the US, you would have to demonstrate very clearly your intent to return to Nepal following the completion of your studies.

Sanjiv: I am shocked, but it might be strict, law or some kind of mood, depends on issuing the visa. Not a long ago, the one who submitted the genuine documents was rejected and another, where some of the documents were fake, got a visa... How is this possible?

* Consular Officer 5: The issuance or denial of a visa does not depend on a consular officer's mood. People who submit genuine documents may unfortunately just not be qualified for a visa, regardless of how honest they are and how genuine their documents are. We are typically very good at catching people who provide us with fraudulent documents and they have been known to have to pick up their passports from the police.

deepak: I've got poor marks in my intermediate level, does that affect in getting visa?

* Consular Officer 3: Hi Deepak. Another student also asked this question earlier. There are many factors which determine whether a visa applicant will qualify, and good grades are one of the factors. Having bad grades does not automatically disqualify you for a student visa, but it may be difficult for you to demonstrate that you will be a good student in the USA if you were a bad student in Nepal.

navraaz: does EDV make any difference to get student visa for other countries besides the U.S.?

* Consular Officer 7: Dear Navraaz: We cannot comment on other countries' student visa policies. Every country has their own laws and regulations governing the issuance of visas for that country.

Sanjiv: So this means, studying in US are those who are RICH, Poor people have no rights for US education?

* Consular Officer 7: A requirement of the student visa is that you can afford it. However, there are plenty of scholarship opportunities for Nepali students. Nearly every day we have fantastic applicants who have received full scholarships to attend school in the U.S. For these applicants, their family's economic situation is irrelevant as our only concern is that the student visa applicant can afford to go to school in the U.S.

Anjan Karmacharya: Its not that the student scoring low grades are bad students. How can such students convince that they will be good students in USA too?

* Consular Officer 7: All students must convince the Consular Officer that they intend to be a genuine student in the U.S. They can do this via a variety of methods, one of which is good grades. If a student does not have good grades, it does not mean they are automatically disqualified, but it might be more difficult.

San: Why the student visa so expensive and charged for the students? Why not free of charges for Students?

* Consular Officer 5: The non-immigrant visa fees are determined by the Bureau of Consular Affairs and are the same worldwide. If a student visa applicant can truly afford the cost of education to study in the U.S., they should be able to afford the visa fees.

Neha Goyal: Can a student dependant apply for a visa and will the dependant qualify for a visa in the student has already completed his/her course and is pursuing the Optional Practical training ?

* Consular Officer 7: A student dependent can apply for an F2 visa at any time that the principal applicant is on F1 status in the U.S. However, if the F1 student is now working on OPT, it might be harder for their dependent to convince the Consular Officer of their intent to depart the U.S. upon completion of the OPT. Every situation is different, however, so it is not possible to give a unilateral answer.

arati: i have applied for the US visa this monday, I got denied and the reason was the tuition fee was not affordable. I am still interested in studying in the united states. could you please tell me if i should apply again to some university which has less tuition fee as compared to the previous university in which i applied?

* Consular Officer 4: Arati, you have two options. You can either pick a less expensive program or get an additional sponsor that is credibly willing to help pay for your education. Whatever option you choose you should be able to tell the Consular Officer in your interview either why you chose this school or why your new sponsor would be willing to pay for your education.

rabi: sir..i m changing my course. i completed my bachelor in electronics and communication.and now i want to do MBA in US.is chances of rejection is high by changing the course?

* consular officer 2: Rabi, at the visa interview you will have to explain clearly and sensibly why you made this change in your academic course and how it benefits your career goals.

Anjan Karmacharya: How can the students having low grades convince the consular officer that they can be real student in USA?

* Consular Officer 5: That is a good question. It is possible to do, but you have to really be a motivated student and most likely have to show student intent in some way other than grades to overcome having low grades. If you have not been serious about your studies in the past, it is difficult for a consular officer to believe that you will be serious about your studies in the future. Difficult, but not impossible.

manish: what are the process for student visa?

* Consular Officer 3: Hi Manish. All of the information regarding the process for applying for a student visa can be found on our website here: <http://nepal.usembassy.gov/visas/non-immigrant-visas/fl/m1-visa.html>

Shyam Krishna Shrestha: Dear Sir, recently I am volunteering for one of Nepals renown club and also doing part - time managerial work at the same club. The same club is ready to sponsor all my expenses during my stay in US. So what sort of documents I should provide during my interview?

* Consular Officer 6: The only required documents are your I-20 and student transcripts. You can bring any other documents you like as supporting documents but the most important thing is the conversation you have with the consular officer. Be prepared to talk about you situation and how and why the club is going to sponsor you. Good luck!

Ramesh: at what cases can a student can be rejected for student visas? would you please list it out?

* Consular Officer 4: 1. You do not convince the Consular Officer that you will be a genuine student in America.
2. You do not convince the Consular Officer you have sufficient income to cover the cost of the entire program.
3. You do not convince the Consular Officer that you will depart the U.S. at the conclusion of your studies.

Subash Awale: In my first interview I was told that I would be a very good student. In my third attempt, i was told i do not have a intention of being a good student. Why was the reasoning so different?

* Consular Officer 6: Hi Subash, I can't comment on your case, specifically, but I can think of two reasons why this might have happened. First, you might have had a really good first interview and a not-so-good third interview. People have good and bad days and I can imagine that you might have been frustrated by your third attempt. Second, consular

officers look for patterns in applications. A person who looks like a very good student in the first interview might start to look suspicious by the third application. Again, I don't know about your case in particular but these are things that we sometimes see as consular officers. Sorry your experience was frustrating.

arati 3: the consular told me that the tuition fee is not very affordable so is this the only reason i was denied the US visa ?or could there be some other reasons for not approving me a visa which the counslar did not tell me?

* Consular Officer 3: Hi there! This is a very common question. Although we cannot discuss your specific case, we generally refuse student visas if the applicant cannot convince the Consular Officer that they will be a genuine student, or if they do not have sufficient funds to pay for their educational program, or if they cannot demonstrate intent to return to Nepal at the conclusion of their studies.

Pourush: Sir I mean people in Kathmandu have land in many places.They can take their son/daughter expenses to study in US by selling 1 of their land.But they keep that money in bank to show as a bank document.I know that many students make fake bank documentst but the ones who are really ikeeping money and having money in bank are getting disadvantages?And I heard that many counselors doesn't even see the bank document?

* Consular Officer 7: Bank documents (and all financial documents) are not required documents for a student visa. Although we will review any document that is submitted to us, you are correct that we will not give much weight to bank documents as we know how easy it is to manufacture and falsify these documents. If a student visa applicant's family truly has sold land to pay for their education, the applicant needs to be prepared to talk about this and provide proof of the land sale via land sale documents (not via bank balance documents.)

San: why is it necessary to depart US after the study?

* Consular Officer 4: A student visa is a non-immigrant visa. The law says that you must depart at the conclusion of your studies.

rabi: is it necessary that each n every document should b translated in english.i have my house rent aggrement in nepali..is it necessary to translate in english.good statement of purpose has any plus point in getting visa?

* Consular Officer 5: Rabi, the Embassy does not require that documents be translated into English. Additionally, the only documents that are required are your original I-20 issued by the academic institution where you intend to study, and all academic records (SLC, +2 certificate, etc.). Any evidence of financial resources to show that you can afford your education is considered supplementary. The U.S. Embassy does not require police reports or medical exam results for Non-Immigrant (including student) visas. 'No Objection Letters' are also not a requirement of the United States.

San: sufficient income can be subsituted by the Sponsors? no matter who ever it is?

* Consular Officer 7: You may submit any sponsor that you like, but you must be able to explain credibly why the sponsor is willing to pay for your education. If we do not find the

claim to be credible, we will not believe that the sponsor is truly willing to pay for your education.

San: How much amount do you think Average Nepali can afford their living and education.?

* Consular Officer 4: Hi San. Every case is different and every family has different sources of income. We look at every case individually and will determine if, with your specific set of circumstances, whether or not your family can afford the program you have chosen.

Ghanendra Mishra: I'm preparing for my TOEFL test now and I've heard about the official scores, what does that exactly mean?

* Consular Officer 7: Ghanendra, as Consular Officers, we are not experts on how to apply for universities in the U.S. or what tests are required. Rather, we are experts at determining if a student visa applicant qualifies for the visa. Therefore, unfortunately, I do not know the answer to your question but I recommend that you ask USEF.

arati 3: i am not used to speaking english, and i was too nervouse while taking the interview. does the embassy considers this or the student might be denied for there reasons?

* Consular Officer 5: Arati, if you do not speak English and you are applying to attend university in the United States it may be difficult to convince the consular officer that you will be a genuine student and be able to sit in classes taught in English and write papers in English, etc.

Sanjiv: Do you suggests students to apply frequently with more relevent documents which the counsular shought in the first or 2nd attempt, if rejected. Or do you suggest not to apply?

* consular officer 2: Sanjiv, we do not recommend students apply frequently. However, students can apply again if they wish, especially if there have been significant changes in their student visa applications, such as choice of school, for example.

deepak: after school level , i joined engineering college and without completing it i changed faculty so there seems gap in my transcript and now i am a 1st yearbachelor student. can i apply for a student visa?

* Consular Officer 4: Hi Deepak, if you have a valid I-20 from a U.S. school then yes you can apply for a student visa. Just be ready to explain to the Consular Officer at the time of your interview why there was a gap, why you have chosen to go to the U.S. for your education at this time, etc.

San: What about the organizational sponser, My organization wants me to sponser for my educational activities in USA as off the job traning scheme, so this can be called valid?

* Consular Officer 7: As mentioned above, any sponsor can be considered valid as long as the sponsor is credible. Please be prepared to speak credibly and honestly about why your organization wants to pay for your education.

Pourush: Sir, 1 of the student showed very high income of his family about 90000\$ per year and he has got to pay just few tuition fees. But even he was told that he doesn't have enough income to pay his tuition fees. What is the reason behind it? Was it really the reason or simply the counselor didn't believe his documents?

* Consular Officer 2: Pourush, every student has to demonstrate that their source of income is real, sufficient, and that it will be used to pay for his school expenses.

dip: Consular Officer 6- i really appreciate your answer...

* Consular Officer 6: Thanks for asking!

San: Consultancies often say that, the amount of your education fees and the bank balance you show to the consular should triple the amount?

* Consular Officer 7: Please do not believe everything you hear at visa consultancies. They are not authorized to speak on behalf of the U.S. Government and they are often just trying to make a profit any way possible. It is not true that you need to have triple the amount of the education fees in your bank balance. In fact, absolutely NO bank balance is required at all, and we do not give much weight to bank balances, as we know how easy they are to falsify. Rather, we will ask you questions about your sources of income and make our determination based on your answers to these questions. The most important part is the interview, and not the documents.

San: FYI, people in front of the embassy, charge NRS 500 for online form. :D

* Consular Officer 7: San, thank you for this information. This is their right in the free-market Nepal. It is the applicant's decision as to whether or not to use and pay for their services. Many of our applicants do not have computers, so we understand that they might use a cyber cafe to help submit their online application. This is quite different than using a visa consultant to help prepare an application package, often with falsified documents.

avasg shrestha: respected sir, i have applied as a transfer student even i have done my three years graduation here in Nepal, now my university had send me i20 for undergraduation degree i have study three years more.

* Consular Officer 4: Avasg, this is between you and the University you applied to. Many universities will transfer credits from your 3 year bachelor's degree so that you can complete your U.S. bachelor's degree quicker. You should be able to talk about this at your visa interview - did you enquire with the university about credit transfer? Why did you not apply directly to a Masters level program? Etc.

Pourush: sir, the students who show fake documents do get the VISA but the ones who show genuine documents doesn't get the VISA? What is the reason behind it Sir?

* Consular Officer 5: Pourush, people who submit genuine documents may unfortunately just not be qualified for a visa, regardless of how honest they are and how genuine their documents are. We are typically very good at catching people who provide us with fraudulent documents and they have been known to have to pick up their passports from the police.

Subash Awale: Does the chances of getting a student visa lowers if one has applied to a state university?

* Consular Officer 3: Hi Subash. This is a good question. No, it does not lower your chances of getting a visa if you have applied to a state university. However, you must be able to demonstrate to the Consular Officer that you have a clear purpose of study, including the reason why you choose to study at a state university.

rabi: i got i-20.but now my ielts score has expired.will it create problem during my interview?

* Consular Officer 1: Hi Rabi - you need those scores to be accepted at certain schools. If you are accepted, we will not really care whether your test scores are expired or not. We will be looking at your student intent, your ability to pay the fees and living expenses and your overall plans and not deciding on whether or not you get admitted to the school. That is up to the school to decide.

Ghanendra Mishra 2: If I have a person in US who is sponsoring me for my studies, do I need show my properties/bank statements etc?

* Consular Officer 5: Dear Ghanendra, you need to be able to convince the officer that you can afford your tuition. You do this through interview and by providing any evidence of financial resources to show that you can afford your education. If your family's properties/bank statements are not going to be a source of funds for your tuition, you do not need to present them.

deepak: how can i show my financial condition is good? do have to show my bank balance ? my father is a businessman so i dont know actual money he earns but he can afford my fees, how can i convince the officer?

* Consular Officer 6: Deepak, you need to have an honest conversation with your dad about what he earns and what your family can afford. Once you do that, you'll be able to have an honest conversation with a consular officer about how you can pay for a university in the U.S. Your bank balance sheets are not required and we don't put a lot of faith in what they say because they are fairly easy to fake.

San: I dont think that the consular can hardly hear us while interview, why is so much long distance between interviewr and interviewee?

* Consular Officer 3: Hi San. Thanks for asking this question. It may seem like there is a big distance between the Consular Officer and the applicant, but we have excellent microphones and we can clearly hear your responses to our questions. If we are unable to understand or hear an applicant, we do not continue the interview until the problem is solved.

avasg shrestha: Can you tell me the procedure to arrange the documents.

* Consular Officer 7: Avasg, thank you for your question. There are only 2 required documents: the original I-20 and all academic transcripts. Any other document that you wish to submit is up to you and is supplementary. There is no specific procedure for

arranging the documents, as there are few required documents. We do not recommend that you use a visa consultant to arrange documents.

Sagar Gautam: Good afternoon sir, i have queries about the abroad study for you. I am studying BBA 6th semester in nepal and i want to have the master degree in US in the management field ie MBA. Is there any solution for me how can i get there? Even though there is 1 year left but i want to be in safe zone..i desperately need ur suggestion sir..

* Consular Officer 4: Sagar, There is a solution for you. Find an MBA program that will accept your 3 year bachelor's degree, make sure your family can afford the program, get the I-20 and schedule your student visa interview. At your interview you will need to be able to talk about your family's finances and especially your plans for the future. We expect Masters-level students to have a clear plan for their future and a deep knowledge of the program they applied to.

Sanjiv: in some way, a student prepared the fake documents, but have excellent interview, and consular is convinced, that means he/she will get the visa?

* consular officer 2: Sanjiv, if a student brings us fake documents, he will be refused and maybe turned over to the police.

San: the student who appears in the interview, the information are all stored in US embassy site?

* Consular Officer 3: Yes, that is correct. The information is available to every Consular Officer at every Embassy and Consulate around the world.

arati 3: according to my i20 the expense for a year comes to be around \$21000, but actually the tuition fee is about \$3200 per semester. So there is a contradiction between the i20 and the actual tuition fee. if i try to explain this to the consular will the consular believe me or s/he will go with the information on the i20?

* Consular Officer 7: You need to ensure you have a correct I-20. If the I-20 is incorrect, ask the university to send you a correct version. The Consular Officer is required to use the I-20 to determine how expensive the school is. Please keep in mind that we are not looking just at the tuition fees, but also the estimated costs for living expenses, insurance, books, etc.

San: do you also refer previous interview process in the second attempt?

* Consular Officer 3: Another good question. Yes, we refer to an applicant's previous interviews. However, we always consider each application on its own merits, regardless of whether the applicant has been previously refused.

Ghanendra Mishra 2: If I have a person in US who is sponsoring me for my studies, do I need show my properties/bank statements etc. for the visa?

* Consular Officer 6: Ghanendra, you don't need to provide properties or bank statements. You can provide them as supporting documents but the most important thing is your interview. You should be ready to explain why someone in the US is sponsoring you, who they are and what your long-term goals are.

Neha Goyal: Is it true, if any individual's siblings is already in the US they have less chances of qualifying for any type of visa ?

* Consular Officer 1: If an applicant's siblings are already studying in the US, it may be more difficult for the applicant and his or her family to afford a second tuition and living expenses in the US, but it is not impossible.

Shyam Krishna Shrestha: Dear Sir, it happend like I pursued my +2 in Science, Bachelor degree in BA(Humanities) and Now I intend to pursue my MBA degree from US. Does changing the faculty matters in getting F1 visa? More over there is certain gaping during my +2 and Bachelor degree and I completed my Bachelor degree in 2007.

* Consular Officer 7: Shyam, you must be prepared to talk honestly and credibly about your plans. If you have changed your course of study, that is fine, as long as you can talk about WHY and what your long-term career plan is. The same thing goes for having a gap in your education. You must be able to explain how this all fits into your plan.

avasg shrestha: i have completed my bachelor's degree in 2009 then i worked in one of the corporate house to expose my skills .Now i have thought that i want to get an international degree so i applied to us university.I have done three years bachelor's here so in usa for MBA most of the university requires 4 years so i want to transfer my credits n complete my bachelor's first.

* Consular Officer 4: Avasg. That is fine and actually quite common among Nepalese students who want to do a masters level program in America. You should be able to clearly explain your plan to the Consular Officer at the time of your interview.

San: ok, so if i get the i20 and all academic transcript? how will consular know I can afford the fees?

* Consular Officer 7: We will ask you questions about your sources of income and you must be prepared to answer the questions honestly and credibly.

Web Chat Moderator: Thank you for your questions. The consular officers are doing their best to answer all the remaining questions by the end of the web chat.

Ghanendra Mishra 2: If I have a person in US who is sponsoring me for my studies, do I need show my properties/bank statements etc? i'm still waiting for my answer

* Consular Officer 5: Ghanendra, I just answered your question. Please scroll up to see the answer. Thank you!

suyog: I must say this session has really helped me overcome many of myths regarding visa interview. Thank you.

* Consular Officer 7: Thank you for your positive comment, Suyog - that is exactly our intention of the student visa webchat!

Ghanendra Mishra 2: Thank you very much

* Consular Officer 6: You're welcome!

arati 3: my father has been running his business for about 18 yrs but we have not registered the shop? can we show the shop that is not registered as a income source? i could provide the proof of the shop

* Consular Officer 1: You can choose what information to provide to show your sources of income. We will care less about whether the shop is registered or not and more about how much income the shop generated. I hope he's running the business and not ruining the business!

Pourush: Thank you sir for your reliable answers which has made me free of my doubts ?

* Consular Officer 3: No problem! Thank you for joining our webchat this afternoon! I hope this information has been helpful to you.

avasg shrestha: sir,i dont know about the course detail because my university had to told me that when i come there then only i will know my course.

* Consular Officer 7: Avasg, while you might not register for classes before going to the university, you should be able to research which courses are required for your specific degree program. You should have knowledge about your program and its course requirements.

San: I think the course which are targeted to social sciences are prioritized?

* Consular Officer 4: This is not correct. You can study anything from physics to poetry - the major you choose does not affect your chances at getting a student visa. You should, however, be able to clearly explain why you chose that major.

Kabindra Malla: i have got a real quick question, can we pay the SEVIS fee at Nabil Bank

* Consular Officer 7: Yes, you can pay the SEVIS fee at Nabil Bank. You must do this before you pay the non-immigrant visa fee.

Pourush: Sir last question if my uncle wants to sponsor me what documents do I have to show regarding my uncle???

* Consular Officer 5: Pourush, you need to be able to convince the officer that you can afford your tuition. You do this through interview and by providing any evidence of financial resources to show that you can afford your education. If your uncle's properties/bank statements are going to be a source of funds for your tuition, you should present them.

Sagar Gautam: is it true that there is less chance for the students who have satisfactory marks in the academic field but has strong financial background?

* Consular Officer 6: Do you mean that students who are wealthy are less likely to get visas? That is not correct. We do not discriminate based on wealth or lack of wealth. Our laws

require that you be able to afford your planned course of study and that is the only way that money comes into the equation.

Ghanendra Mishra 2: do we know yet when the next web chat date is?

* Consular Officer 3: We don't have a date set at this time, but we will post the information on our website when it is available. We will continue to do webchats on a regular basis, so keep checking our website for updated information.

Sanjiv: ok, Now cleared, Students need to be genuine, have to choose the correct universities where can be affordable, and one must not conceal anything rather, be a genuine student at the time of Interview, the key to get the visa.

* Consular Officer 5: Yes! Thank you for the nice summary, Sanjiv.

San: what if the student with the student visa in USA dies?

* Consular Officer 5: Dear San, the Nepal Embassy in Washington should be informed.

Web Chat Moderator: Thank you for participating in today's web chat. The transcript of this chat will be available at <http://nepal.usembassy.gov/webchat2.html>. You can also check that site for previous web chat transcripts and information about upcoming web chats.

Web Chat Moderator: Those of you who submitted questions that did not get answered during the chat can check the transcript and see the answers there.

Web Chat Moderator: Thank you!

Open Questions

navraaz: how do u know if the applicant has tried the edv or not?

*We are able to access that information in our systems.

Shyam Krishna Shrestha: Dear Sir, it happened like I pursued my +2 in Science, Bachelor degree in BA(Humanities) and Now I intend to pursue my MBA degree from US. Does changing the faculty matters in getting F1 visa? More over there is certain gap during my +2 and Bachelor degree and I completed my Bachelor degree in 2007.

*Shyam, you need to be able to explain both your academic history and your current long-term plan in the student visa interview. For example, you must be able to explain why you are changing your courses and why you have a gap in your education.

San: This information session is interesting.

*Great, we are glad you have enjoyed it!

avasg shrestha: do i have to bring those mails which my international officer had send me?

*No, this is not required. However, you are more than welcome to include these documents if you want.

Kabindra Malla: Can i pay the SEVIS fee and the application fee on the same day. or do i have to wait for the SEVIS fee to be confirmed. (Given i pay it at Nabil bank)

*You can pay both of these fees on the same day at Nabil Bank.

Ghanendra Mishra 2: yes indeed. that was helpful... see you !

*We are happy you found it helpful, Ghanendra!

deepak: can you give me link to i-20

*Deepak, the university provides you with the I-20 when they accept you as a student.

San: ok, the total expenses for educaiton and living expense is 50 thousand dollar, and I have 60 thousand dollar in my own bank account, That can be justified?

*We are not very concerned with how much money is in the bank and are much more concerned with what are your credible sources of income. You will need to be able to talk about your sources of income in the interview.

Deepak 2: is it ok if we only show the Money in account and not show the source of income

*There are no required financial documents, but you must be able to talk about your sources of income in the interview. If you just have money in the bank account and no sources of income, it will look very suspicious.

arati 3: thank you for your time. the online chat was really helpful

San: Thank You all the 6 consular;s for the effective information service delivery.

*We also enjoyed the online chat and are happy everyone found it helpful. We will post information about our next webchat on our website and Facebook pages. Thank you for joining!